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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/468,173	12/10/1999	DONALD F. GORDON	19880-000800	3310

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EXAMINER

TRAN, HAI V

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2611

DATE MAILED: 03/15/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/468,173

Applicant(s)

GORDON ET AL.

Examiner

Hai Tran

Art Unit

2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coleman et al. (US 5844620) in view of Obikane (US 6404818).

Regarding claim 1, Coleman discloses an apparatus for forming a multiplexed transport stream to deliver an interactive program guide (Fig. 1). Coleman further shows a block diagram of an encoder apparatus (Fig. 1) for assembling and transmitting IPG elementary packets stream in a multiplex with various services encoded in packet elementary streams according to MPEG-2 encoder/packetizer such as video elementary stream, audio elementary stream and ancillary elementary stream) with a multiplexer and assigner (Fig. 1, el. 14) adapted to receive the plurality of video packet streams, the audio packets stream, and the plurality of data/ancillary packet streams;

Coleman does not clearly discloses encoder and packetizer (Fig. 1) to encode and packetize the plurality inputs to generates a plurality corresponding packet streams in which the multiplexer and assigner (Fig. 1, el. 14) receives the plurality of corresponding packet streams to assign PID to the packets streams.

Obikane discloses encoder and packetizer (Fig. 12) to encode and packetize the plurality inputs to generates a plurality corresponding packet streams in which the multiplexer and assigner (Fig. 14, el. 29) receives the plurality of corresponding packet streams to assign PID to the packets streams (Col. 8, lines 5-Col.11, lines 39). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Coleman with Obikane so to provide a video transmission that is capable to transmit a plurality of video data associated with one program without a complicated processing at the time of reception (Col. 6, lines 62-65+).

Claim 2, Coleman further discloses a method of forming a multiplexed transport stream to deliver an interactive program guide (Col. 6, lines 65-Col. 6, lines 16).

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Crinon (US 6573942) a Buffer system for controlled and timely delivery of MPEG-2F data services.

Tsurumoto (US 6510555) shows information providing apparatus and method, information receiving apparatus and method, and transmission medium.

Bando et al. (US 6040867) shows a television signal receiving apparatus and method specification.

Sanami (US 6014368) shows a packet multiplexing system.

Bennet et al. (US 6421359) shows an apparatus and method for multi-service transport multiplexing.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai Tran whose telephone number is 703-308-7372. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Faile can be reached on 703-305-4380. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

HT:ht
03/08/04



HAI TRAN
PATENT EXAMINER